

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL

Vol. V.]

General Summary of News.

[No. 224]

## EUROPE.

The news brought by the last arrivals extended to the 11th of June from London, and the 15th from Paris, the details of which we have already given to our readers. By the *Asiatic Mirror* of yesterday, we perceive that the American ship *China* which arrived in the river on the 24th, from the Mediterranean, leaving Leghorn on the 1st of July, has brought Paris Papers to the 19th of June, containing London intelligence as late as the 15th of that month, or four days later than that brought by the previous arrivals. The following articles are all gathered from that source:

London, June 14 1819.—At length the real state of the British Finances, in so far as relates to Revenue and Expenditure, is unveiled; it was long suspected how the matter stood, but the truth was contested. It is no longer doubtful, the Sinking Fund is just about equal to the money deficient, and that must be borrowed, or in plain terms, there is no real efficient Sinking Fund. New taxes are proposed, but it is doubted whether they will be productive of increased revenue, as there have been several examples of a falling off in consumption equal to the expected augmentation. At all events, the Sinking Fund produced in that way will not amount to more than one two hundredth part of the debt, which would require (if the interest be 5 per cent.) forty-nine years, one month, and twenty two days, to pay off the capital.

Such a Sinking Fund is of no use at all, it is but a mere mockery, unless wars were less frequent than they have been for these three centuries past. The Sinking Fund England has had, though much greater in proportion, has been too slow; by too slow, I mean that the debt has become too unwieldy—too enormous to be borne under the operation of that very Sinking Fund. Had the Sinking Fund at once been made 6 per cent., which pays off a capital in fourteen years, two months, and fourteen days, the saving to England already would have been very great, and the debt would never have risen so high as to absorb the whole revenue of the Nation, as it does at present. The Sinking Fund of France would pay off the present debt in twenty-three or twenty-four years; now, though that, is twice as fast as England, it is still too slow. Another evil would be found if any Sinking Fund was really to reduce the debt of the nation greatly. Stocks would rise to such a height, that the liquidation would go on very slowly, and the nation would pay double what it received.

I dwell the more on this, because Loans with Sinking Funds attached to them are got quite as much into fashion with financiers, as freedom of trade did forty years ago with M. Turgot and the Economists, but let Statesmen beware. The real principal of borrowing during war with a Sinking Fund, is to pay off during the following peace—not to pay it off at some distant day, but at a near period. If this view of the matter is lost sight of, all Sinking Funds terminate in disappointment. France would have been by her debts ruined long before 1789, had she not borrowed on Life Rents (Rents Viageres, or loans reimbursable in fifteen years.) Had France been as regular and attentive to her credit as England had been, there would have been no Revolution, or had England made loans on the French principle, she would not now be overladen with debt.—When our Sinking Fund was established, just thirty-three years ago, what has now taken place was predicted, not in malice nor in ill-will to the scheme. It was said, that the 'day would come' when the fund would be applied to 'pay the expenses of the year,' and so it is. David Hume predicted sixty-three years ago, that the day would come when the money, intended to pay the interest of the debt, would be applied to pay the expenses of the year—let us hope that he was mistaken, though at the same time it must be admitted, that the present system does not inspire great confidence, for the disciples of Mr. Pitt do not resemble their master; they have not like the prophet Elisha, preserved their prophet's mantle.

London, June 14.—The *Courier* of Saturday adverts to the rumour respecting the cession of Cuba, by the Spanish King, to the Crown of Great Britain; and in very equivocal terms admits the currency of the report, and concludes with the comforting assurance, that this important island will certainly not be transferred to the United States, from which there is an innuendo that it may be transferred to another power. We can only repeat, that if this mercenary bargain be the foundation of that departure from the ancient honourable course of British policy, which the Foreign Enlistment Bill so notoriously sanctions, it is disgraceful to the Ministry, and will be injurious to the best interests of the country—for it cannot fail to create a misunderstanding with the United States, which may involve us again in war. It is advanced by Ministerial men, as an argument for the negotiation, that there is no effectual means of putting an end to the Slave Trade, but by obtaining the possession of Cuba, since it is from thence, that the contraband traffic is carried on to all the West India Colonies. Upon this pretext then, we suppose, Ministers will place their justification, acknowledging, at the same time, their inability to prevail on their good and humane Ally, Ferdinand, to put an end to the horrible trade himself.—

Newfoundland papers have arrived to the 12th of May. They state, that the seal fishery had been uncommonly successful. Between 30 and 40 vessels were employed in it from St. John's and 162 from Conception-bay.

London, June 15.—Stocks are rather lower—Omnium at one per cent. discount. It is now stated, that Ministers will not have occasion to raise any Loan next year; consequently, that this will be the last.

A private letter, received this morning, by a respectable house in the city, states, that an intended insurrection of the Georgia Negroes had been discovered and frustrated. The following is an extract of a letter from Augusta, May 6:—

'A plot of insurrection of the Blacks in this place and surrounding a country, as well digested perhaps as that of St. Domingo, and which was to have been executed on Saturday last, but for providential interference, was yesterday fortunately discovered, and many of the ring leaders are now committed for trial, and will probably soon meet the awful sentence which awaits them.'

Accounts have been received this morning, that the Carlisle weavers, on Thursday last, returned to their employment, after having diminished their demands 1s. a cut. They have certainly conducted themselves with great moderation considering their number, which amounted on some occasions to not less than two thousand.

Advices from Jamaica, of the 21st April, mention, that Lord Cochrane's force in the South Sea, consists of 40 armed vessels of different descriptions.

Sir C. Monck postponed indefinitely his motion respecting Parga, which stood for this day. He stated, as his motive, the arrival of intelligence announcing, that the cession of Parga had actually taken place. We regret that the Hon. Member did not proceed upon his notice. The discussion would not, perhaps, have rescued the Parguinotes from dissolution, or the diplomacy of England from the disgrace of an execrable transaction, but it would have brought the question into open day—and that would be an important point gained with an humane and generous public, in a case of such shocking distress. Sir C. Monck is no doubt correctly informed as to the news, and indeed we had heard yesterday a report of the arrival of a Messenger with the intelligence from Corfu. But we suspected it might have proceeded from persons interested in the cession of Parga, and in the prevention of a debate upon it. It was not a little suspicious, that the news should arrive so *apropos*: just in time to prevent the motion upon the subject in Parliament.

Marks Hall, in Essex, the beautiful seat of Montague Burgoyne, Esq. has been sold by Mr. Wakefield for a sum somewhat exceeding one hundred thousand pounds.

The importance of the trade to the Colonies of British North America is clearly shown by the returns to the House of Commons, distributed yesterday morning. In 1818, the ships which cleared outwards and entered inwards to and from Great Britain to these settlements, were, inwards, 1133 ships, 266,696 tons; outwards, 1309 ships, 285,885 tons. The Irish returns of this trade are not yet made out. In 1817, the ships which cleared outwards and entered, inwards to and from the British West India Islands to those Colonies were, inwards, 321 ships 51,209 tons; outwards, 394 ships, 56,691 tons. The returns of this trade for 1818 are not completed.

A singular circumstance lately occupied the attention of the Bench at Brighton, that of a married woman coming forward and swearing herself in a state of pregnancy, not by her husband! but by a farmer who lives in the eastern part of the county. So strange a thing seemed to puzzle the worthy Magistrates, and they adjourned the further hearing of the case until Thursday the 17th.

A young gentleman, belonging to one of the Public Offices, named Creswell, has proved himself the legitimate *Fortunate Youth*, for a short time back he married an accomplished young lady, with a *bona fide* fortune of five hundred thousand pounds; and a few weeks after, a very distant relative from whom he had no expectations, died suddenly, and left him an additional fortune of three hundred thousand pounds!

The brig *Letitia*, of and for Belfast, from Jamaica, which place she left on the 25th April, passed Cork harbour on the 10th of June. She reported that his Majesty's brig *Parthian* arrived at Jamaica on the 29th April, with an account of the capture of Puerto Cabello by the independent troops under Sir Gregor McGregor.

Paris, June 11.—Marshall Soult has arrived in this City. His Grace the Duke of Hamilton is at present in Paris, and has, we understand, expressed his intention of preferring a claim to be admitted a Member of the French Chamber of Peers, in virtue of certain ancient rights and possessions of his family in this kingdom.

General Vandamme, who was comprised in the Ordonnance of the 24th of July 1815, has arrived at Havre-de-grace, where, as he was unprovided with any formal authorization to re-enter France, he was placed at the disposal of the Local Authorities, who have assigned him the town as the bounds of his prison.

The day before yesterday, his Excellency the Count Pozzo di Borgo received a special courier, charged with despatches direct from St. Petersburg.

We are sorry to state, that we have received undoubted intelligence of the bankruptcy of the House of Zuckerbaker and Co. at Riga. The failure is to an enormous amount. We are assured that the Emperor of Russia has lost by it a million of roubles of his personal funds. The head of the firm has shot himself. The failure is supposed to have been caused by an unproductive speculation in corn.

The Church of St. Peter, at Rome, has just received an additional embellishment worthy even of that "eternal Ark of worship undefiled" in a monument to the memory of the last remnants of the ill-fated Stuart line. It is sculptured by Canova, which is implying all its merits in one word.

By way of quieting the tumult of his capital, the Grand Signor has been pleased to order the trunkless head of Kavanos Ognal, Pasha of Two Tails, and formerly Commandant at Rostchuk, to be exposed at the gate of the Seraglio. The cause of Ognal's decapitation is not stated.

The Prefect of the Gard has sent a Circular to the different Municipal Authorities of his department, on the occasion of the approaching *Fete Dieu*. In this he notifies to them, that no action whatsoever can legally be taken against any such Protestants, or others dissenting from the established Religion of the State, as may think fit to decline hanging out tapestry during the procession. At the same time, however, he expresses a hope, that in compliment to their Catholic brethren, the Protestants will voluntarily accede to a trifling testimony of respect to what the former consider a Sacred Ceremony.

It is reported to be the intention of the German Sovereigns to elevate the little fortress of Bitch, into one of the first rank. It may be rendered one of the strongest places on the Rhine.

In almost all the Departmental Journals, we read the most flattering anticipations of the approaching harvest.

Our Berlin letters inform us that the two day grand Spring Reviews of the Garrison of Potsdam ended in several streets of that capital, with an attack, which was accompanied with so heavy a fire of musquetry, that a very great number of windows were broken in some houses near the residence of the Prince Chancellor, and even the watches hanging at the window of a watch-maker in the neighbourhood, were all damaged. During this violent attack the Crown Prince who commanded the enemy, ordered several bridges to be drawn up, by which the victory was decided in favour of the enemy, the adversary being obliged to retreat precipitately, for fear of having his retreat cut off. It is said this measure of drawing up the bridges was properly not contained in the plan of attack which had been given.

By a letter from Copenhagen, we learn, that a Danish Lieut. of Chasseurs, having suffered himself to be insulted, without subsequently demanding any satisfaction, thirteen of his brother officers drew up a protest against him; the affair having come before a Council of War, the Lieut. has been broken, and the 13 other officers are condemned to a month's strict imprisonment in a fortress.

We hear from Russia, that the Lancasterian system of education is making a most rapid progress in that vast Empire, under the auspices of the Emperor and Prince Galitzin. What may sound rather singularly to southern ears is, that the *Cossacks* manifest the most extraordinary eagerness to acquire literary instruction, and that many of them display proofs of striking talent.

We learn from a private Swedish letter, that the arrival of and extraordinary British courier at the Court of Stockholm early in May, has given rise to much speculation. His despatches were supposed to have reference to the Duke of Wellington's repairing to Stockholm in the course of the present summer. The latter report appears to gain ground.

They write from Lisbon, that Marshal the Marquess de Campo Major, who has been for a long period absent from Europe, has arrived in that city, where he immediately assumed the command of the troops on the Spanish frontiers. A general promotion in the Portuguese army has taken place in consequence of this event. There is a rumour of great changes having taken place in consequence of this event.

There is a rumour of great changes having taken place in the Ottoman Ministry; how far such an event may be favourable to the interests of Russia, it may be difficult to determine.

Paris, June 12.—According to the new arrangement of the funds originally granted by Bonaparte to supply the pensions of his Senators, and still continued under another form, M. Carat, Ex-minister of Justice, and who read the sentence of Death to Louis XVI. will, as a *ci devant* Senator, receive a pension of 24,000 francs, while M. Deaze, who so nobly pleaded the cause of the Royal victim at a period when even almost a look of compassion for his fate was high treason, will, as a new Peer, only enjoy a pension of 6000 francs. Yet this is the administration which is stigmatized as acting so barbarously and so implacable to the regicides!

On Ascension day there was solemn religious Fete at Genoa: a young Turk being also on that day admitted a member of the Christian Church. His sponsors were, the Marquis Mari and the Duchess d'Alberg, consort to his Excellency the French Ambassador at the Court of Sardinia.

Our Neapolitan correspondents inform us, that Vesuvius continues to exhibit many evidences of internal commotions; eruptions of a trifling description take place almost every night.

It appears, that upon more mature deliberation, the Sublime Porte has conceived it to be the wiser plan to conciliate instead of provoking Russia; in consequence of which the Grand Signor has formally disavowed all participation in the insult offered to the Moscovite flag in the port of Constantinople. Our Readers will probably recollect, that this event took place several months back, and that the autograph letter of the Emperor himself to the Sultan, had hitherto failed to produce the present disavowal.

Paris, June 18.—We are happy to be enabled to state, that the health of his Majesty continues to improve; he is now sufficiently restored to take some walking exercise every day in his apartments. It is thought his Majesty will be well enough to hear Mass on Sunday in the Chapel of the Tuilleries.

On Wednesday the 16th of June, his Majesty received the British Ambassador, in a private audience, when his Excellency presented his Majesty with a letter from his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, announcing the birth of a Princess, daughter to his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent.

The collection made at Notre-Dame on Monday the 14th of June, amounted to more than 30,000 fr.

Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Austria arrived at Rome on the evening of the 2d instant, after having made a stay of more than a month at Naples.

It is said, that the Imperial Prince will meet his august Sire at Milan.

On the 4th instant his Holiness the Pope held a Consistory, where the Red Hat was bestowed upon the Archduke Rodolph.

On the 2d instant, her Grace the Duchess of Modena was safely delivered of a male infant. It is said, that his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Austria will stand god-father to the young Prince.

The Hanoverian Minister, Count Munster, arrived in Brussels on the 15th of June, on his way to Germany.

It is remarked with some surprise that the Cabinet of Bavaria appears much engaged in the increase instead of the diminution of the Army.

The harvest is so far advanced, that Barley and Rye are already cutting in the department of the Lot.

Really, in reading the details of the mode of conduct pursued by the *soi-disant* missionaries in the South and West of France, a person of an absent turn might imagine himself living in the eleventh century instead of the nineteenth. What will our readers think of the following short advertisement of one of those parties who have established a *Boutique* of relics and sepulchres, near the Cathedral of Bayonne, 'Avis—The rosaries of glass beads which are sold in any other shop of this city, although they may have been blessed, yet do not enjoy the indulgences which the Sovereign Pontiff has accorded to those sold here.' Why this is like one of the opposing puffs of Messrs. Warren, and Day and Martin.

The tide of Emigration to the other hemisphere appears to be increasing all over Europe: the number of families which have left Germany, Holland, and Switzerland, within these two last years, is almost incredible; and we hear from Newwied of the 1st of June; that within the preceding week six large vessels, crowded with natives of Wirtemberg, had descended the Rhine; the destination of all the voyagers was to America. Following the system of Mr. Malthus on the subject of numerical increase in population, and taking into consideration the thousands of new inhabitants which flock to her every year from Europe, what, we may ask, must the population of America amount to in the course of another half century? and judging from the principle of insatiable ambition which characterizes her Councils, how jealousy should not England alone, but every European Power, watch her movements. Napoleon himself was never individually more desirous of universal empire than are collectively the body of American citizens.

They write from Claremont, of the 12th of June, detailing the following dreadful circumstance: A young man, father of a fine family, and enjoying a lucrative situation there, had the misfortune to loose his reason a few months back; he was brought to Paris for advice, during which journey and illness, his wife carefully attended him. The treatment of the Faculty here appeared to have perfectly succeeded, and he returned home on the 10th of June, apparently in sound mental and bodily health. A few hours after his arrival, however, he prevailed on his wife, under some pretence, to go down to the cellar with him, where they remained so long, that the wife's sister went down to look for them; she too delaying below for an unaccountable length of time, some of the servants followed, but what a sight presented itself! there lay wife and sister, one 25, and the other only 19 years of age, bathed in gore, and their heads nearly cut off. A razor, the fatal instrument of the deed, lay on the ground; the wretched perpetrator was found crouched up in a corner of the cellar; he appeared quite insensible of what he had done) laughing idiotically as he passed the corpse.—



Three infants are in this shocking manner deprived of the care of a tender mother.

Paris June 19.—A singular discovery was made on the 12th instant by the Custom-house officers, whilst searching a house against which some person had laid an information. Their search was fruitless, as far as contraband goods were concerned; but an old saddle, on being examined, was found to have been hollowed out; and, in the cavity, there were found forged Bank of England notes, to the amount of more than 50,000 pounds.—There is reason to believe, that several notes of this description have been circulated in Paris: for the execution of the notes was quite as good as those that are genuine. The parties implicated in the transaction, have made their escape.

We hear from Burgundy, that the state of the vines there gives promise of a harvest even still more abundant than that of last year.

There are in Russia, without including the newspapers, about 20 leading periodical publications on liberal principles.

More than 40 new Journals have been published in Germany since the Congress; some of them purely democratic.

We hear from Lausanne, that an avalanche has fallen upon the valley of Goescheneu, in Switzerland whereby 41 persons have been killed, five dangerously, and 35 others slightly wounded.

There is a rumour of an approaching marriage between the King of Wurtemberg, and the second daughter of Duke Louis of Wurtemberg. (Louisiana boyne 20th June, 1799.)

On the 10th of June his Majesty of Wurtemberg received from Count de Trautmanndorf in a private audience, the formal demand of his consent to the Union of Princess Maria (daughter to her Highness the Duchess Louisa of Wurtemberg) and the Archduke Joseph of Austria, Palatine of Hungary.

The Princess Catherine of Montfort has proceeded with her sister-in-law Mdo. Rizza Bacciochi, to Carlsbad. Jerome Buonaparte and M. Bacciochi remain at Schenau. It is remarked, that the surveillance of the Government over these families has latterly become much less rigid; indeed from the change in public opinion it has ceased to be at all necessary.

By an official return we learn that in the course of the year 1818, 307,000 persons have been vaccinated within the Prussian Dominions.

They write from Berlin, that his Prussian Majesty has quite recovered from the effects of the accident which lately happened to him in the course of his carrying down the Russian Mountains in the Isle of Peacocks, but that this accident together with the recollection of the dreadful one which occurred last year at the *Fête Beaumon* in this city, has excited a very general prejudice against that dangerous amusement.

On the 2d of June King Charles John left Stockholm for the camp at Scania; from whence he will proceed to the Botha of Helsingborg.

General Waltersdoff, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Court of Denmark to that of France, arrived at Frankfurt on the 12th of June instant, on his route to this city.

We learn from St. Petersburg, that preparations are making for the departure of the Emperor Alexander to Warsaw. It is insinuated and that broadly, that his Imperial Majesty is to make some highly important communications to the Polish Diet in its approaching Convocation.

Our Stockholm letters state, that a very agreeable sensation appears to have been created in the Swedish Court, by the receipt of certain Dispatches from the Austrian Capital, which it is particularly remarked, were conveyed by an extraordinary Courier.

Letters from Russia say, that M Kunizyn has satisfactorily demonstrated, that the petrified trees found in Russia, frequently fourteen feet underground, were not carried there by an inundation; but thrown down by an earthquake.

We learn from Copenhagen, that M. Thott, a Swedish Officer, has arrived in that city *en Courier*, bearing dispatches to his Danish Majesty, in which Charles John assures him, that his views are of a perfectly pacific nature, and promises that the camp of Scania shall be dissolved by the 23d instant.

We learn from Sweden that a Gymnastic College is to be established at Stockholm. This will make the number of Swedish colleges eleven. The number of pupils in the Universities is 3,585, and the expence to Government 70,000l. per annum, of which about half is for the support of the poor student.

A Merchant of Berlin, named Berthod Julius, accused of fraudulent Bankruptcy has been discovered and arrested at Altenburg.

The Danish Journals state, that it is in the contemplation of that Government to unite the Elbe with the Baltic by means of a Canal.—We are assured, that an able Engineer is now employed in surveying the intervening space of ground.

It appears, that the tribe of Lawyers has latterly increased in Denmark to a most alarming extent, and as a necessary consequence the affiliated race of attorneys has multiplied in a like proportion; indeed, to such a

height has the evil grown, that it has attracted the notice of the Government, which being very desirous of promoting internal tranquility, has given orders to check the further progress of this legal torrent: as a running commentary to the text, the Municipal Authorities in the Provinces are directed to keep a sharp eye upon the proceedings of the Gentlemen of the long robe.

The king of Naples has issued orders to the Judges throughout Sicily, to use their best exertions towards concluding the various trials now before them, by the termination of the present month; in Palermo alone above 1200 persons have been tried within these two months, and the greater number of them condemned to chains, and to ten or twelve months imprisonment.

We learn from Naples, that an oil of a particularly fine description can be expressed from grape seeds; when used in lamps it gives out no visible smoke whatever.

On the 17th of June a person holding a situation in the *Cours des Comptes* received a mysterious box, with which also came a caution to him not to open this said present until a given hour. This extraordinary injunction excited the suspicions of the gentleman, and induced him immediately to proceed to investigating the contents of the coffer; accordingly he opened it, but with the precaution of himself standing at a considerable distance, and found it contain several pounds of gunpowder, together with a number of bullets, and some grape shot. From its mechanism, it is seen, that the intention of those who constructed this species of infernal machine, had been to bring about an explosion immediately on the lid being raised, but from some trifling oversight in placing the flints, this did not take place: most fortunate was this for the gentleman in question, as even his precaution might not have saved him, had the machine exploded on the principle of a shell. The police are employing themselves to search and reward the author of this *admirable invention*.

Rome.—Intelligence from Rome, of the 15th May, informs us, that Sir Thomas Lawrence has arrived in that capital; he is charged to execute a portrait of his Holiness for His Royal Highness the Prince Regent. Lodgings have been assigned him in the Quirinal Palace, and he has already had the honour of an introduction to the Holy Father.

Smyrna.—Extract of a letter from Smyrna, dated April 5:—I cannot let pass this opportunity of informing you of a most disagreeable occurrence which took place here a few days ago.—M. Savary was invited by the French Consul to dine at Bournabat, to meet the French Ambassador's mother-in-law, Madam Laferte, who came here some time ago, and wished to see the French Gentlemen. Of the party was a French Officer belonging to a brig of war. In the course of conversation, the Officer attacked Buonaparte's Government, called him all the opprobrious names possible, and said that he made use of his Police Officers to assassinate a French Prince. Savary pretended not to hear him, and Madame Laferte joining the party, took the French Officer away. On their arrival at the waterside, Savary asked the Captain of the brig to be present at an explanation he wished to have with the French Officer: this he refused. Savary then called the Officer aside, and asked him whom he meant by Buonaparte's Police Officers? He refused, and on the question being put to him a second time, he said he had no answer to give to Polissons. Savary lost patience on hearing this, and gave the Officer a severe drubbing with his cane.

The business is gone to Constantinople, and I suppose Savary will get a severe reprimand on the subject. He sent to tell the French officer, who is a nobleman, that he was ready to give him satisfaction; but he answered, in a most scurrilous manner, that he could not fight with a man who was dead in civil law, and more particularly with one covered with crimes, and the blood of the Royal Family.

A private letter from Paris, gives the following as an authentic account of the quarrel between the Duke of Rovigo (Savary) and a French officer at Smyrna.—Authentic letters contradicted the details inaccurately given by the German Journals, and repeated by those of Paris, on the quarrel which the Duke of Rovigo had at Smyrna with Viscount de Flotte, Lieutenant of the French Marine. The Duke thought himself insulted by the Viscount at a dinner to which they had been both invited by the mother-in-law of the Marquis de Riviere. He complained on leaving the table, and, not satisfied with the explanations of M. de Flotte, he gave him some blows on the face with a pipe which he had in his mouth. He offered him at the same, the satisfaction which in such a case one Officer owes to another. M. de Flotte accepted it at first for the following day, but having returned in the evening on board the brig which he commanded in the roads, he reflected anew on the subject, and refused decidedly the challenge, addressing at the same time to the Duke of Rovigo a most abusive and insolent letter. This letter is handed about in the saloons of Paris, and has been communicated to the Ministers, on whom an imposition had been attempted by a different version of the story. Viscount de Flotte did not appear on shore on the subsequent days; but taking advantage, with little generosity, of the critical position of the Duke, who had been capitally condemned in France for contumacy, made pressing solicitations to the French Consul to obtain his prompt banishment from Symrna. The Consul ordered it instantly. There have been since at the house of the Consul-General of Austria, under whose guarantee the Duke of Rovigo lived, negotiations, of the result of which we are ignorant. The Duke of Rovigo lives at Smyrna with the consent of France and of the other Powers, since his escape from the prison of Malta, and his departure from Trieste. He is there engaged in commercial speculations as a partner in an English house.

## AMERICA.

The rising importance of this quarter of the globe, receiving yearly such a vast acquisition of territory and such an increase of its population from within and without, as well as the still existing struggle in the Southern hemisphere between the patriots and their enslavers, induces us to turn our attention towards it more frequently perhaps, than is agreeable to the generality of our readers. We shall not presume to offer an apology for what we conceive needs none, but rather lay before them the information, which has come into our possession through the French Papers of June, more particularly *Le Pilote* of the date of the 15th, from which the following have been translated for our columns.

**New Orleans.**—A letter from hence, dated March 28, says:—Our commerce and our agriculture daily experience a most extraordinary increase: cultivation extends itself on every part of the banks of the Mississippi. Nature calls our city, by its situation to become one of the most flourishing depots of commerce, which have ever existed. Our population is now near 50,000, and it takes each day a new flight.

Whilst a crowd of strangers land on our shores; others coming from the north, from the United States, descend the Ohio and the Mississippi. The population may be calculated in the following manner; five tenths of French origin, four tenths American or English, and one tenth of Spanish origin. The acquisition of the Floridas again, is a new circumstance which may be expected to have a considerable influence on our commercial prosperity.

Building is going on with wonderful activity, principally near the bank of the river, and the Faubourg St. Marie, which now forms the most beautiful quarter of the city.

Every day new societies apply for the grant of lands, which are instantly given up to cultivation. A general agency is established here, which takes charge of all sales and purchases of this kind: it is directed by Don Michel de Armas, of Spanish origin, notary public; and by Mr. James Workman.

We have in our roads more than 300 vessels waiting for cargoes: there are several for Bordeaux, Nantes, Havre, and other ports of France.

All business is transacted at the Café Maspero: this is our Exchange, our little Lloyds.

The introduction of Steam Engines for our interior navigation has produced the most extraordinary effects. These vessels, by the rapidity of their progress, shorten, so to speak, the greatest distances. They go up the Mississippi, the Ohio, and the Missouri, against the current, and require only thirty days to traverse a distance of 2000 miles, which separates our city from Pennsylvania. They thus establish an immense and rapid circulation until now without example in any country in the world.

The Arts, the Sciences too, begin to become naturalized amongst us. We have a Society of Agriculture; a Medical Society is established by an act of the legislature; a Society of Emulation; several presses which publish as many Journals; *L'Ami des Lois* is written in French, *Le Journal de Louisiana* in the same language and in English, *The Orleans Gazette*, in English, &c. We have two Theatres, that of Orleans and that of Saint Philip. Amateurs perform, at the first of these Theatres, comedies and French operas; the second is devoted to concerts and balls, a species of pleasure, which our ladies partake of with enthusiasm.

It is unfortunate, that our city should be the focus of the yellow fever. We remember the ravages which it spread amongst us in 1817. The Mississippi is the Nile of America; the town is built below the level of the river on a slimy soil which suffers the water to escape only to the depth of a few feet: it is surrounded by cypress trees and marshes. The river, on its retiring during the summer, leaves an extended slimy plain covered with the refuse of animal and vegetable matter, which owing to the heat of the sun is promptly decomposed; hence the cause of the yellow fever which attacks new comers in particular. It was during the months of July and August, that its ravages were most extensive, much less alarming however than is commonly supposed in Europe. The healthy state of our city may be further judged by the reports of *L'Hopital de la Charite*, in which during the last six months of the year 1818,—500 individuals have entered, out of whom 102 are dead.

The fear of this scourge does not however prevent our population from increasing more rapidly than in any other part of Louisiana. It consisted of 130,000 inhabitants in 1810; it is now 277,235, according to the latest documents. Natchez, which was only a miserable assemblage of cabins on the banks of the Mississippi, near an old fort, is now a beautiful town, peopled by 4000 souls, where there are tribunals, a sheriff, several public establishments, a press, and a Journal.

You will recollect the frightful picture the Abbé Raynal gives of these *sands of the Mobile*, where so many Frenchmen perished in the depth of misery. It is in this very same place where even yet, under the Spanish Government, are only seen a mass of wretched hovels, that there is now established an active and industrious population; houses, timber yards, magazines, are erected in every quarter; a military marine, a custom house, and public establishments assure the speedy development of a city already peopled with 5000 souls.

On this same bay of Mobile, a second city is built, named Blakely; and although it is scarcely three years since it was erected, it already rivals that of Mobile.

It is in this country, that the canton of Tom-big-bee, which was ceded to the French refugees in 1814, is situated; there are 300 French families in

it, several of them have capital, and consequently, the means of real prosperity. It appears, that many of the refugees from the *Champ d'Asile*, have repaired to this establishment. The soil of Tom-big-bee is extremely fertile; the vine, the mulberry, and the olive tree, are cultivated there as well as the sugar cane, cotton and indigo.

**The Floridas.**—We have in general but a very imperfect notion of the Floridas. It is believed, their navigable rivers have their source in the territory of the United States; but the line of coast of this country is divided by two vast bays, which afford safe and commodious anchorages, particularly that of Hillsborough, where vessels drawing less than 24 feet can go over the bar.

The greater part of the soil abounds with a species of pine, called the yellow pine, which is excellent for building. It produces also plenty of pasture. Farther off, a different description of soil is found, which produces abundance of trees of several different qualities, the walnut, the hazel, the mulberry and the maple. It is also adapted to the culture of indigo; and figs and oranges are also produced; but the last of these fruits is not of the best quality. The Savannas of Florida are not either without interest, altho' in the rainy season they may be almost impracticable. Nevertheless they produce herbs of which cattle are extremely fond. The dwarf oak and the juniper grow in abundance. In this last soil, low lands subject to the inundation of rivers yield in profusion, corn, rice, and indigo, as well as wood for building, maple, oak of several species, birch, willow, sumac, and the myrtle.

There is also in this country a third species of soil, of a light and spongy surface, strewn with a description of fibrous vegetable, which trembles at the approach of man or animals when at a great distance, and in the folds of which these last are sometimes entangled and inevitably perish. Very fine earth for making coal is also found there, fossil, mark iron, lead, lime crystal and white topaz. The Floridas in general produce plenty of pot herb plants; wheat, rice, barley, indian corn, buck wheat; peaches, pears, and apples; cotton and tobacco, turpentine, gum, hemp, and all articles used in ships, and probably the finest timber for building in the world. The lakes, bays and rivers abound with fish of various species and of the best quality.

The foregoing is a very imperfect sketch of the soil and natural productions of a country which now forms an integral part of the American confederation. But why speak of the Floridas in their actual state; of the swamps which will soon be reclaimed by the hand of culture. There, where slavery reigns, all the luxury of nature disappears. In the bosom of such prodigality, man murmurs; he beholds with a cold, sombre, and indifferent eye, the blessings by which he is surrounded; but here, where in spite of arid sands, of swamps almost inaccessible, and of vast deserts, Liberty penetrates, the earth itself renders Her homage. The desert flourishes like a rose, the swamp changes into a garden, the desert into delightful villages. Who would have thought not long since of this New Orleans, then an insignificant spot hardly marked in the charts of America! Now we behold this giant of commerce extend its powerful arm to reclaim as its appendage all these treasures of which the waters of the Mississippi bear the tribute to the ocean.

**Virginia.**—Letters from Virginia of the 30th of April, mention the deplorable state of commerce in that country; they announce also a great number of bankruptcies.

The following is the substance of a private letter, dated from Port d'Espagne, Trinity Island, April 9, 1818, on the subject of the operations of the Patriots, dated as above:—

I have already forwarded you a dispatch from the Vice President of Venezuela, in which he announces to General Urdenata, that Morillo had retired from Arauca, and that Paez was on the 15th of February, in pursuit of him with a large body of Cavalry. A person arrived from Maturin and letters from the same quarter, now announce, that General Paez had come up with the enemy at San Juan de Payara and defeated him after an engagement of four days, in which it is said, that the Spaniards lost 2000 men, and that Paez is still in pursuit of them.

The same letters mention a dispatch from General Bolivar to General Bermudez who is besieging Cumana. The fort which commands the roads, it is said is already taken, and the squadron under Brion is gone in chase of a convoy of provisions destined to succour the garrison and protected by a Spanish squadron. A part of the division of Colonel English is embarked to serve as marines.

**Baltimore June 2.**—Captain Fleetwood of the schooner Sam, arrived here yesterday in 26 days from Porto Bello, reports, that General McGregor made his appearance off Porto Bello on the 7th of April. On the 8th he landed his forces amounting to upwards of one thousand men and on the day following, he entered and took possession of the place. He remained in possession 21 days without succeeding in gaining any of the inhabitants over to his standard. The depredations and robberies of his party, on the private property, compelled the inhabitants to abandon their houses and fly to the mountains for refuge.

In the latter end of April, General Hore (Royalist) entered Porto Bello at 6 in the morning, and surprised McGregor and his followers, who were asleep. McGregor and 5 or 6 of his men escaped with difficulty, by leaping from a window twenty feet high, and swimming on board of one of his vessels.

Five hundred prisoners have been sent to Panama. There were 60 men killed and 10 wounded, the greatest part of whom were officers.—Stragglers were daily brought in from the neighbouring mountains. The Royalists lost two men killed and four wounded.



## Marine Registry Office.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

After the variety of subjects which have been discussed in your columns since the last mention of the Marine Registry Office, this communication will have the merit of novelty, if no other to recommend it, and as it is certainly a matter of considerable importance to the mercantile part of the community, I request the insertion of it in your Journal.

As the impartial opinions here ventured, are meant chiefly for those who were not present at the Meeting held at that Office, on Monday the 18th instant, it will be necessary to look back to the foundation of the Institution, and consider the purposes it was intended to answer, before noticing the late transactions.

The frequent and alarming instances of Ship-burning prior to this Office being established, must be in the recollection of all; and the prevention of this was the principal object it was meant to effect. How far it has accomplished this desirable end, will be best ascertained by this simple fact, that in the year preceeding its formation, there were nine ships set fire to, in the succeeding year only three, and (since then but one); during which time it is only reasonable to allow, that the efficacy of the new system could not have been properly felt, founded as it was under the most discouraging circumstances; I mean, as it had to contend with a weighty Native interest; to overthrow the power of a number of unprincipled men, who lived by, and whose authority or rather influence was unbounded over, the lascars; and to annihilate a system of oppression, fraud, and villainy, which can hardly be credited but by those whose pursuits led them to witness it.

The plan of the Institution was drawn up and offered to the consideration of all the Merchants and Ship Owners, by the present Registrar. It was highly approved of by them; as it was, also, I believe by every Commander in port, to whose opinions then, as well as in the late transactions, their Employers paid the greatest deference and respect. We, the Commanders, were all rejoiced at the Office being established, and were all anxious for its success, though in no small fear for its durability, anticipating that strenuous exertions would be made by the Ghaut Serangs, to counteract its operations as it was natural to suppose that they would strain every nerve and use every means to impede the progress of an Institution which, if successful, must have been ruinous to their vital interest. In this we were not mistaken; great and strenuous indeed their exertions have been; but the perseverance used, and the abilities evinced by the persons conducting the Institution, supported, it is true, by all the Mercantile interest, overcame all obstacles, formidable as they were; the stability of the Office was, to all appearance, ensured, and every thing went on swimmingly for eighteen months.

Since then, however, it would appear by the testimony of a number of Commanders, that the Office, instead of being, as intended, a security to the ships and cargoes of the Merchants; of being conducive to their interest by the speedy supply of efficient crews for their vessels; and of providing a maintenance for a poor and wretched class of their fellow beings; the Office is now declared by these gentlemen to be productive only of trouble, delay, and disappointment to them as Commanders, with loss and ruin to the Owners, and the most general and strong disgust to the native Seamen.

This, added to the disapprobation and the dissatisfaction of the Owners at the present high rate of wages, together with the charges which have been urged of fraud and corruption in the Office, and neglect of duty and incapability on the part of the Registrar, form the grounds of a Letter to the Committee, acting in aid of the Office, which, together with the Registrar's reply was read on the 18th. Before, however, noticing the proceedings of this Meeting, I must draw a few comparisons between the old and new systems, not with an idea of throwing any new light on subjects already discussed by much more able hands, but to show, that the sentiments of the few Commanders now in opposition to the Office are not the sentiments of all that body, and to point out the ground on which a difference of opinion is held in a matter which, by most thinking men, we, the Commanders, might be expected, if unprejudiced, to be unanimous in.

To begin—In former times, we agreed with Serangs for our crews, and were subject to risk, not perhaps very great, but I have suffered by a Serang's absconding; it is superfluous to state, that no such risk now exists. Next, our crews came on board at all intermediate places, between Calcutta and Saugor; consequently at different periods, the Serang bringing the last with him when the Batta Lascars were sent to town. Under the present system, no Captain, I believe, leaves town without his crew, and he knows what men he has before his ship moves; formerly it was our first business, going to sea, to ascertain what our crew consisted of; this must be in the remembrance of every old Commander. Delay is complained of in getting the men from the Office; fifteen days is the time allowed it to furnish them. Is there any Commander ready to assert, that unless in very small craft indeed, he ever knew a crew to have been shipped under our old system in that time? It was customary whenever, a voyage was determined on, to agree with our Serangs, who from that period were employed in getting their men. How many ships have loaded and gone to sea in fifteen days? I leave this question to the old Commanders to answer; and can only say, that I have, after a month loading, been detained several days for Lascars.

As to the quality of the men, was there hardly any exception to universal complaints of our crews, on first going to sea? I have long been in the Country Service, and I never knew it otherwise; as one instance

I declare, that once leaving this port, at a time of no unusual demand for men, I had only out of 40 Lascars, 12 who had ever been at sea before. Syces, Mallies, Dandies, (not modern ones), Taylors, Moonshies, &c. In fact, every thing but Lascars; and the manner in which some of them were procured, is too infamous almost to repeat. My Serang, one voyage, brought with him to Kedgerree, eleven men, six of whom were purchased from Mr. Martin's officers—it will bear no other colouring. These wretches were in confinement for debt, (they said falsely), which they could not liquidate, and which they had never been before any Magistrate to answer for. The Serang paid their debts, and took their persons to be at his disposal, without any agreement whatever; and this I understood to be a very usual method of filling up deficiencies in our crews. We can at present not only know what our men are from the Office, but examine them ourselves; consequently, if they are not what we wish I really cannot see how the Institution is to be blamed, when men are plenty, and when scarce, still less so.

Let us now look at the comforts of the Lascars, who are at present supplied with (in addition to the former allowance of rice, dholl, and ghee,) fish, chillies, garlick, onions, tamarinds, potatoes, ginger, &c. &c. Their families are, if they wish it, subsisted during their voyage, by tickets; they are duly paid their wages on their return; and after a reasonable servitude or unfitness for service from age or sickness, they are maintained for life. Formerly every thing but rice, dholl, and ghee, was supplied by the Serang, who did just as he thought fit by them, and the result is plain; the Lascars, with the exception perhaps of the Serang's friends or relations, had little or nothing to receive; this the Captain, if so inclined, could not remedy; it was the *dustoor*, not to be invaded, and if they lived to old age or were unable to go to sea, they must beg or starve.

This slight comparison will be perhaps enough to enable any one not intimately acquainted with facts, to appreciate the relative merits of the two systems, and I now proceed to an account of the Meeting on Monday the 18th, where the Letter of accusations and charges, was replied to, by the Registrar, in a manly disavowal of any knowledge or belief in the existence of fraud or corruption, a firm denial of any neglect in his duty, or of any delay having taken place, when dispatch was practicable, and courting investigation in its most inquisitorial shape.

Although it is not my purpose to enumerate these charges, to comment on the individuals who framed them, the means used to substantiate them, or the sentiments expressed by the members of the Committee who investigated them, (composed of men of as just and liberal principles and as enlightened minds as ever met to decide on any question), yet Justice claims it, and I conceive it the duty of every one who speaks on this subject to give at least his general opinion with candour and impartiality. My own is (and I think myself to be in possession of all the merits of the matter), that never were charges more determinedly held forth, more keenly advocated, more pertinaciously clung to, or more clearly, entirely, and easily refuted.

It is, however, very evident, that the Office is not what it might be, or what it ought to be, in point of efficacy as to procuring good crews, and these speedily. The cause is, I think, equally evident; and as the Gentlemen of the Committee have courted the suggestions of all who felt themselves enabled to speak on existing defects and probable remedies, I will venture to point out what I think to be the former, and hope I may be able to prove the latter, but I do it with the greatest diffidence, and deference to their better judgements.

I feel strongly convinced, that the great cause of the late clamorous dissensions, and every difficulty under which the Office has laboured in procuring men, originates in the gross violation of the laws in the system followed by the Commanders of getting their crews, I mean paying money clandestinely to the Serangs. It is needless to lop off the branches, while the evil lies at the root; there the axe must be applied; and until this practice is put an effectual and final stop to, and the Serangs and Lascars have every shadow of hope extinguished, of being able to ship themselves on terms directly or indirectly more advantageous than the Office warrants, so long as this hope is kept alive, so long will the energies of the Office be cramped, and discontents and difficulties will ensue.

There appears to me to be two remedies for this main spring of all our troubles; they will, perhaps be rather unpleasant in their application, but I think quite efficacious in their effects. One is, that any Captain who should be found to have directly given money to his crew, or indirectly evaded the law, by promise of future reward should be held incapable of further command; but as several of them are both Owners and Commanders, to whom this would not be a sufficient punishment, I would, in this case, determine, that no Insurance should be granted to that ship for the voyage, when such money was paid for the one following, when the discovery was made of any indirect evasion, or at least for some specified period of time. The other remedy is simpler, viz. that the Captains do, when ready for sea, make oath, that the rules of the Office have been complied with in this respect, without mental reservation or evasion. These may seem strong measures but my belief of their necessity is founded on the conviction, that nothing short of one of them or an equally decisive one will answer the purpose.

The next serious evil is the disappearance of the good Lascars; and that this is the case in some degree, I think there is no doubt; but without sending them to "Chittagong to feed Moorgees," or calling Mr. Jalla's aid to the magic "Presto! Be gone!" we may account for it nearer home, and perhaps find many of our absentees more close to us than we suspect. That many of our very best men have deserted us from the low rate of wages, is, I fear, too true; but I believe the principal cause of their disappearance, resta

in our cabals and disputes, by thus giving the Ghaut Serangs and their myrads, an opening to renew their hostile proceedings, or rather secret machinations against the Office; for it cannot be imagined, that they would lose such an opportunity; and I think it highly probable, that they have left no exertion or even sacrifice unmade, to keep the best men concealed or employed, as a means, and no ineffectual one, it seems, of feeding the flame which we ourselves have kindled.

The remedy for this appears to be interwoven with the former one, in quashing all future dissensions, by the strongest support to the authority of the Office; and adding two or three rupees per month to the pay of able seamen. This sacrifice (if considering the labourer worthy of his hire, can be so called) would be but trifling indeed, compared with the good that must accrue from having our ships well manned; for instance, say a ship of 500 tons has twenty able seamen, the 60 additional rupees can not be any material item in the sailing expenses of the voyage.

It has been extensively circulated, and I suspect pretty generally credited, that fraud and corruption does exist in the Native departments of the Office, by bribes being received for procuring situations; and it is said, that the earnings of the Lascars are embezzled and taken from them, under various pretences. The following Proclamation is hung up in the most public part of the Office, viz. "Money is forbidden to be received from any seaman or other person, by, or on account of, any person employed in this Office as Batta, Dustoor, or under any other denomination. Persons, from whom any money may be required, or received, are ordered to report the same, to the Registrar, or other Gentleman in the Office immediately." I therefore contend, that even allowing these evils to exist, until it is shown that instances were brought to the Registrar's notice, which he did not investigate, or when proved, did not punish, he must be perfectly exonerated from blame. We are all, I dare say, sufficiently acquainted with the disposition of the Natives, to allow that where an opportunity does exist, they will make every use of it to enrich themselves, no matter at whose expense. I do think that notwithstanding the wise and salutary rules on this head, opportunities do still exist, and these I also think may be done away.

We know, Mr. Editor, that the Commissioners of His Majesty's Dock Yards pay the Seamen individually; that Officers in charge of Companies, in His Majesty's regiments, pay their men; that every Indigo Planter pays his ryots; and really I can see no reason why every Country Captain should not pay into the hands of every individual belonging to his ship, every pice they may have to receive, no matter under what head, and that too in the Registry Office; this I think would effectually prevent impositions on the Lascars.

There are several minor matters, which I might notice, but they are too insignificant to take up your valuable columns in detailing. One thing, however, I cannot pass over; namely, the complaints of the Commanders, of having their time taken up by attendance at the Office. It does really seem difficult to me to say where a Captain's trouble is to be more usefully applied, or his time more properly employed, than in whatever regards his ship, and particularly about his crew. If it interferes with his routine of visiting the Exchange, the Auction, &c. &c. it is unfortunate; and, as it is termed, a grievance. I will offer a remedy for it also, viz. Let those who feel it so, resign their troubles to those who will consider it only as a part, and a very material part of their duty, of whom I will venture to say there are enough at least to fill all vacancies.

I know not how it is, Mr. Editor, but we Bengal Captains seem, and not only seem, but really have (if we may judge by the last few days) much more to say in matters than we used to have, in what I must of course call the *Bad Old Times*. Is it from the distinguished merit and personal consequence of some who have condescended to join us? from our improved wisdom and experience? or from the becoming spirit with which we have learnt to give our opinions, and "speak up," (a term much in use) to those, who in the days of our pusillanimity and weakness, we did forget ourselves so far as to treat with the most profound respect, and were spiritless enough to receive a hint from them as a law to which we bowed with submission. But away for the future with such pitiful ideas! Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday last, saw us arguing on, and pointing out to the Merchants their true interests; nay, dictating to them how and in what proportion they were to dispose of their money to us, and their other servants; and on Thursday, we gave them another forcible, and by no means *indelicate specimen* of our newly acquired consequence, in removing them from their own Committee room, that we might deliberate in it.

I have heard some mention of addressing the Governor General in Council. Should our body obstinate come in contact with them, I hope that his Lordship and his Council will sit fast; for as I really did not at all think the respectability of the room increased when vacated by the Merchants, I, for my own part, would just as soon let things remain as they are in that Supreme department; being old fashioned enough to be satisfied with seeing people in their proper places, and attending each to their own business.

To conclude. It is, I think, clear, that most of the late clamorous complaints against the Marine Registry Office were totally unfounded; and where there has been reason for dissatisfaction, the cause for it may be traced to the source I have before mentioned. Matters are now laid on the shelf for the present; therefore let us hope, that measures will be adopted to prevent a recurrence of them, and allow the Mercantile Interests of Calcutta, to receive in their fullest extent, the solid benefits which the Registry Office, when well conducted, is so well calculated to afford.

A COUNTRY CAPTAIN.

Calcutta, 22d Oct. 1819.

## Education.

This Education forms the tender mind,  
Just as the twig is bent the tree's inclined. POPE.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

I trust the period is now fast approaching, when the deserving, numerous, and increasing Race of people—the Descendants of Europeans in India—will be brought within the pale of that charity, beyond which they have hitherto been, I may say, even sedulously kept stationed, by the, in other respects, liberal and philanthropic beings who are blessed by every Native tongue in India, and by that of every poor, friendless, and destitute European.

The British Inhabitants of this mighty Empire have stretched forth the hand of protection to all around them who stand in need of such aid, except to those who most of all deserved, and most of all required it! The reasons or motives which caused, and continued such unchristian conduct, are not easy of explanation, nor is it worth the trouble which the search would create, to try and discover them: especially as now it may be relied on, that the secluded state of the descendants of Britons will soon cease to be a reproach to their Fathers. What a noble appearance will the Bengal Army make, when its Military Fund shall stand in contrast with those of the Sister Presidencies; and when the regulations of the Fund shall proudly record the beneficent resolutions of its supporters in favor of their helpless Children! And these will be singular resolutions. Singular did I say? Humanity will not believe it, and heaven-descended Philanthropy will hide her crimsoned face on hearing the revolting expression. But yet it is so, and truth demands the fact to be promulgated till those who gave it being shall disprove it.

The supporters and disseminators of Indian Charity have hitherto persisted in visiting the sins of the fathers upon the children; nay fathers themselves have visited their own sins on their own children, whom they have left forlorn and dependant, while they lavished sums which astonished their western countrymen, on remote and unconnected objects of charity! They took from their children, to bestow upon strangers, and caused Charity which should begin at home to fly the dwelling in which she could only at best lie dormant and unregarded: but the ice once broken,\* will soon entirely disappear, dissolved by the warmth of Philanthropy; and the inestimable blessings of Education and Independence will be poured down upon the only people now left relying on little more than chance for their acquirement.

It will be a memorable day—a glorious *dies notandus*, in the History of the Bengal Army, when the Military Fund shall be established on principles calculated to shield the Half-cast Children of its Patrons from "variety of wretchedness." Not one of their hard-fought days (and they have seen many) can place their courage and devotedness in a more brilliant light, than this Institution will set their humanity: nor has Fame's loud tongue resounded their "Deeds of War" more applaudingly; than it will give to the world their acts of genuine Charity. But they must not be allowed to engross likewise the undivided glory of the Education System; for they are not the only Procreators of the Country-born population, nor are at any rate their Procreators the only people who feel for their unbefriended state.

No, India can boast of many, many high and affluent men of unqualified beneficence, who are ever ready to lend their aid and influence to charitable purposes, though not personally interested in the fate of the objects it is proposed to befriend; and these men are to be found plentifully scattered throughout the Service, Civil and Military, as well as adorning the Bench, the Bar, the Church, the Commercial, and the private Community of our eastern Empire.

Far from allowing a monopoly of Charity, these men will be the first to step forward and propose the establishment of a suitable College or Seminary for the education of country-born Children of every description; and I trust and doubt not, that the support they will receive, will quickly prove how universally their fellow countrymen admire their exertions, and contribute towards their furtherance and speedy completion. That excellent Institution, the School Book Society, will find the sphere of its action enlarged on the establishment of the above named Seminary, and its worthy Members will rejoice at the cause of their increasing labors—a cause which (or I mistake them much) a majority of themselves will soon be found creating. In the mean time it is to be hoped no obstacles may be thrown in the way of the immediate establishment of the Bengal Military Fund, but that those Officers who are at the Presidency will draw up in the speediest manner, the necessary resolutions for the consideration and approval of the Army; the whole of which might be completed, and the votes obtained in a month or six weeks at farthest.

I am at a loss, however, to know whether the Officers ought to commence the business of themselves, or apply to the Commander in Chief for his sanction and support in the first instance; but I should imagine they ought first to have a Meeting, and thereat appoint a Committee to draw up the Regulations, which, when completed and approved of, by the General Meeting, should be submitted to His Excellency, and last of all circulated through Commanding Officers and Heads of Departments, to the whole of the Army.

No doubt can be entertained of entire success, or at least of the support of nine tenths of our Officers, which will be quite sufficient (or so would a still less number) for the attainment of the end in view; and it therefore only remains for some Officer of Rank, and high official dignity, to convene a Meeting by way of making a beginning; for if the great body of Officers

\* Our coldness well warrants the application of this common meta. hor.



cannot be assured that the proposed Plan is forwarded and supported by such persons as are here alluded to, they will not have confidence enough (nor is it natural they should) in its ultimate success, to make them lend their aid at its commencement.

When people of the knowledge and experience of those above designated support a Plan, their brother Officers feel convinced of its beneficial tendency, and they are impressed with a just confidence in its succeeding to the full extent anticipated; neither of which could possibly be the case if the proposition not only emanated from, but was supported solely by, Officers of less mature judgment, and (from a want of experience) of less caution, than those of longer standing in the Service, and constant practice in its most difficult details. I believe the management of the Madras Military Fund consists of thirteen of the first Officers at the Presidency, among whom are the Adjutant and Quarter Master General, Fort Major, Commissary General, &c. &c.

Now with us it so happens, that no men are sincerer friends to the Army than those of the above rank, and others who, from being constant residents here, would be the fittest persons to controul the Fund. The Adjutant General, Quarter Master General, Military Secretary, Judge Advocate General, Deputy and Assistant Adjutant General, Deputy Quarter Master General, Town Major, Brigade Major of Fort William, Presidency Paymaster, Army Clothing Agent, &c. &c. are men who have nothing more at heart (or report speaks falsely) than the honor and well being of the Army to which they are ornaments, and who would consequently readily undertake to manage a Fund so likely to be universally beneficial as the one now under consideration; and the oldest General Officer in India, a man who has spent his life in camps, and who is entitled to our esteem, would not, I think, refuse to be President of the above Committee, to which let a Secretary be added and the whole would be complete. Hoping ere long to hear more of this, from abler Communicators, through the medium of your Journal, which by facilitating such discussions as these, nobly and irresistibly maintains its well-earned title of Paper of the Public, I remain, Mr. Editor.

Your's obediently,

Calcutta, Oct. 24, 1819.

VOLO.

### Hospital Dues on Sailors.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

I wish to bring to the notice of the Public, through your valuable Journal, the disproportionate charge made at the Gene al Hospital of this Presidency, of One Rupee per day, for the accommodation of a each sick sailor. A Rupee a day, is at the rate of Seventy-five Shillings per month, while the monthly wages of these poor men, is at most but Forty Shillings.

Surely the Government cannot be aware of this severe Tax on men so useful as British Sailors are. In London, I believe the charge for a man per day is Ten Pence, including his wine and every necessary comfort. Now in London, not only wine, but every article of food is dearer than in this country, by at least fifty per cent. In London, too, if a man dies, no charge is made; whereas here, the same demand is made, whether a man dies, or recovers.

This is a case deserving the attention of the Government, and one which I am convinced, only requires to be brought to its notice, to be remedied. I therefore request you will do me the favor to give this Letter a place, whenever you can spare room for it, provided you think it inoffensive, for I do not mean, by any thing I have said, to censure any one Department.

It is impossible of course that Sailors should be able themselves to pay so heavy a charge; so that it becomes a tax on commerce, inasmuch as when a Sailor cannot pay, which is often the case, the ship to which he belongs must do it.

I have signed Bills to the amount of Several Hundred Rupees for Hospital Charges against my Seamen, who all have, it is true, wages due to them, from which it must be deducted, so that I cannot be a loser; but still, I feel the hardship, as keenly as if it applied to myself; though when I refused to pay for one man, who had died, the Hospital Circular told me, that I should not get my Port Clearance until I did.

Chouringhee, Oct. 25, 1819.

B. F. B.

### Orphan-School-Fund.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Will you have the goodness to insert the following Query, in expectation of receiving an answer from some of your very numerous and erudite Military Correspondents:—

What are the sums claimable by an Orphan residing in England, whose Father paid 3 Rupees monthly for very many years, (indeed to the day of his death,) to the Orphan School Fund?

I have looked into the Almanac published at the Mirror Press, but cannot find any sum mentioned. See page 143 Appendix of that publication.

I am, Sir, Your well-wisher,

Calcutta, 22d Oct. 1819.

QUERIST.

### Coroner's Juries.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

It affords me much satisfaction to observe, that the enquiries of K. M. R. in your Journal of the 19th, have had the effect of bringing forward JOHN BULL's opinion on the subject of Coroner's Inquests.

The present system of seizing Europeans, and conducting them like so many malefactors, has long been considered as a nuisance, and deprecated by all parties.

The want of some vehicle for a free and open communication of opinions between British subjects in India is now removed by the existence of your Journal; and we may hope for a reform in this grievance, as well as in many of the long-established *qui-hye* systems.

I have myself been degraded by the seizure of my person, and a black Soldier placed by a Constable as a sentry over my body, and in this manner conducted through the most public streets of the city.

That measures may be devised for the amendment of this obnoxious custom, and some mode instituted for the assembling of Juries, more consonant to the feelings of Europeans, and consistent with British Law and Freedom, there cannot exist a doubt; but I am afraid that a twelve hours warning, as JOHN BULL says is the custom in his country, is not calculated for this climate; a three hours notice would afford time for men engaged in business to arrange matters, or even to send substitutes from their Offices, to which I see no objection.

If I am rightly informed, it is the Law of England that every Juryman summoned is to receive half a guinea per day, as long as he may remain on the Inquest; if this law was established here, there would be no difficulty in procuring Jurors. There are many people sufficiently qualified, to whom such an allowance would be acceptable, and who would, under such circumstances, be ready to volunteer their services. Should it be asked—whence are these fees to be paid? I think that the prosperous state of the Vestry Funds immediately suggests the idea of the proper source.

Where lies the objection to Inquest Juries being composed of respectable Natives, when the body to be inspected is that of a Native? they would often be better able to judge of the circumstances of the case than Europeans. Why should Natives be less fit to sit on such Juries, than as Presidents and Members of Courts Martial? There are held in the Hon. Company's Military Service, European Courts Martial, and also Native Courts Martial, and why should there not be Native as well as European Inquest Juries?

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

Calcutta, Oct. 26, 1819.

R.

### Military Queries.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

"*Mens conscia recti.*"

Sir,

Permit me through the medium of your valuable and widely disseminated Journal, to offer my thanks to the Gentlemen, who have so ably discussed the Military Queries which appeared in your Paper in the month of September last. I know not, Mr. Editor, what general impressions these discussions may have made, but I have no hesitation in stating, that the arguments produced have satisfactorily convinced me

First: That the PRIVILEGE OF CHALLENGING cannot LEGALLY be withheld from a PRISONER brought for trial before a Court Martial, be the same, General, Line, Garrison, Regimental, or—in one word every Court Martial.

Secondly. That a PRISONER has the RIGHT OF APPEAL, from the sentence of all minor Courts Martial.

And Lastly. That every Member of a Court Martial must give his vote, when this Court proceeds to award Punishment, whether he or they be of the minority\* or not.

It is not my intention to recapitulate any of the arguments which have been adduced on these important points in Military Law; but I shall conclude, with congratulating your Military Readers in general, on the beneficial result, already produced, by discussions conducted throughout as these have been, upon principles at once moderate and gentlemanlike, for such, Mr. Editor, (supposing the conclusions I have drawn to be erroneous) must be deemed, the calling the attention of the Army to subjects of such vital importance, as all those must necessarily be, which are in any way connected with the due administration of Military Justice.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant, and

ORIGINAL ENQUIRER,

CENTURION.

Calcutta, Oct. 23, 1819.

\* By minority I mean such Member or Members, as may have acquitted the Prisoner of the crime alleged against him.

## Botanical Novelty.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir, Some of your horticultural readers, may perhaps be gratified with an account of the *Vestricale Seiceta*, or *Indian-touch-me-not*, a plant, which tho' of some standing in the country, has only lately been brought into notice.

The following description I believe to be quite correct; but if not, some of your Botanical Correspondents will no doubt be kind enough to rectify it.

Order. Hexandria, 5 stamens barren. Class. Hexagynia. Calyx permanent. Coroll. monopet. quinquefid. Stem woody, spinous, shrubby.

When first observed in the country, it was supposed to have been an ANNUAL, and many are still of that opinion. But others again assert that it is PERENNIAL, and that it can be propagated only by its own effects, which it throws out with wonderful punctuality always on EASTER MONDAY.

It thrives exceedingly in the climate of Calcutta, but being neither useful nor ornamental, it is not worth preservation; and would probably have never been regarded, but for the nourishment it affords to all the *Parasitic* tribe.

Your obedient Servant,

A GARDENER.

Calcutta, Oct. 22, 1819.

Beauton Katakronon.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir, The enemies of SELF-ELECTION pretend, that there is no precedent for a Church-warden or any man bringing an action against himself for malversation: but I find in the books sufficient warrant for a man's being judge in his own cause; wherefore, *à fortiori*, he may prosecute himself before another judge. Ergo: The present Vestry System of Self-election is good and effectual, for every purpose of check and punishment.

In the reign of Henry VI. the Chancellor of Oxford claimed the right of trying an action brought against himself, upon which occasion Serjeant Rolfe introduced the following argument in support of the claim. "Jeo vous dirai un fable. En aucun temps fuit un Pape, et avoit fait un grand offence, et le cardinals vindrent a luy et disoyent a luy 'peccasti:' et il dit, 'judica me:' et ila disoyent, 'non possumus, quia caput ex ecclesia; judica teipsum:' et l'apostol dit, 'judica me cremari,' et fuit combustus; et apres fuit un saint. Et in oco cas il fuit son juge demene, et ferint N'EST PAS INCONVENIENT QUE UN HOME SOIT JUGE DEMENE."

October 23, 1819.

L. E. D.

## Fine Arts.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir, A Caricaturist has lately established himself in this city, and a specimen of his graphic skill is in circulation: but he seems to have indulged his imagination as recklessly in the construction of his figure, that I am at a loss to guess whether it have a real or only a possible prototype; but your readers shall judge from the description which follows.

The figure is habited in a black robe, with a white apron embroidered with the symbols of FREE MASONRY, among which are various levels to be used in different climates and latitudes, and a plummel having for its weight, instead of a bit of base metal, a purse filled with gold mohurs, and labelled *honorarium quiddam*. With his feet, or rather hoofs, he tramples on a Speech spoken on the 24th of July; and with his left or sinister hand, he bears aloft, a Letter dated 19th August, 1818. His right hand turns a mill for grinding the parts of speech into smaller parts, or particles; and it is surprising how many of these latter take the hypothetic configuration.

The Artist has opened the mouth of his victim freely; but, alas, this tremendous aperture or victus is occupied by a *oag* which is adjusted and retained in its place by means which this Original seems to delight to manage himself, otherwise he would infallibly be delivered from it! In his nose is a hook with which he is pulled to the right or left, forwards or backwards, at the discretion of a slave in a camelion garb, indicative of Editorial, Pictorial, Poetical, Metallurgical, and Pedagogical drudgery, who leads his victim by the nose, amid the regrets of the good, and the rejoicings of the servile, and lures him forward by delicately tickling him after the manner of one who catches salmon trout. The stately victim complacently smites all the while on his betrayer, who in return laughs in his sleeve with demoniae joy, at having made such a conquest.

The imperfect state of the art of engraving as yet in this country, leaves it doubtful whether the Caricaturist intended to represent the Principal Figure as having actually turned his coat; or as only about to do so from irritability, spleen, and rivalry. There are also imperfect strokes of the graver behind the same figure, that look as if the Artist had designed a rat's tail to proceed from an elongation of the *occeyris*, but left it unfinished as it were in the hope, that the consummation of the sacrifice of so noble an animal, and his transformation into an utter and grovelling quadruped, might yet be avoided.

Calcutta, Oct. 24, 1819.

A CONNOISSEUR.

Printed at the Union Press, in Garstin's Buildings, near the Bankshall and the Exchange.

## Domestic Occurrences.

## MARRIAGES.

At Madras, on the 28th of Sept. at St. George's Church, by the Rev. M. Thompson, A. M. George Mather, Esq. of the H. C. Medical Establishment, to Marianne, eldest Daughter of the late Charles Chambers, of Middlesex, Esq.

At Bombay, on the 15th of Sept. Lieutenant Stephen Slight, of the Engineers, to Miss Harriet Anne, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Clifford, commanding at Poona.

## BIRTHS.

At Secunderabad, on the 19th of Sept. the Lady of Lieutenant and Adjutant Spicer, of a Daughter.

At Quilon, on the 5th of Sept. the Lady of Captain Elphinstone, of a Daughter.

At Madras, on the 6th instant, the Lady of John Shaw, Esq. Register of the Supreme Court of Judicature, of a Son.

On the same day, the Lady of H. W. Kensington, Esq. of H. C. Civil Service, of a Daughter.

At Padang, on the 24th of August, the Lady of James Du Puy, Esq. Resident at Padang, of a Son.

## DEATHS.

On the 26th instant, the Infant Daughter of the late Mr. C. F. Lewis.

At Tellicherry, on the 14th of Sept. to the unpeakable regret of all his friends; John Oakes, Esq. Master Attendant of Tellicherry, of an attack of the Cholera Morbus, after an illness of a few hours. His loss will be long felt by the native poor of Tellicherry and the neighbouring country for miles round, to whose wants he had been accustomed to administer for years, with the most unsparing hand, and at the same time in the most judicious manner.

At Madras, on the 24th of August, George Anderson, Esq. Surgeon on this Establishment, sincerely regretted by his family and friends.

At the same place, on the 23d of August, in the Ganjam district, Mr. Charles Bird, of the Civil Service, a young man, whose superior talent, sound judgment, and ardent zeal in the performance of his public duties had already secured to him the admiration and confidence of his employers. His gentlemanly deportment, lively humour, and extensive knowledge rendered him the favourite of a numerous acquaintance; but those who were fortunate enough to be distinguished by his friendship scarce needed any other testimony of their own worth, and could rely with security on his *Ami ami* *Ami*.

At Sea, on board the Albion, on the 25th of July, E. J. Irving, Esq. Assistant Surgeon, Madras Establishment.

## Shipping Intelligence.

## CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destinations
Oct. 27	Mermoid	British	Harris	China

## MADRAS ARRIVALS

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Oct. 1	Tottenham	British	Davy	Calcutta	Sept. 16
2	Lucy	British	Stunt	Coringa	Sept. 20
3	Albion	British	Weller	London	June 3
4	Fanny	British	Smith	St. Dennis	Sept. 3
4	Black Joke	British	Eglam	Etanookola	Oct. 2
5	Edward Strettle	British	Balston	Masulipatam	Sept. 30
5	Princess Charlotte	British	Frishoe	Negapatam	Sept. 30
5	Wasp	British	Penberthy	Calcutta	Sept. 20

## MADRAS DEPARTURES.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destinations
Sept. 20	Victoria	British	Gonsalves	Northern Ports
20	Latchemy	British	Cnot	Mauritius
30	Williams	British	Ganteen	Pondicherry
30	Isabella	British	Wallis	London
Oct. 2	Aurora	British	Earl	England

## COLOMBO ARRIVALS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Sept. 23	Pilot	British	Owen	Portsmouth	

## Passengers.

Passengers per Aurora, from Madras for England.

Miss Caroline Lewis, Miss Maria Innes, Captain Malis, Captain Keating, and Lieutenant Foshberry, from Bengal. Captain Blake, H. M. 24th Regiment, Lieutenant Home, H. M. 86th Regiment. Mrs. Hodgson, J. E. Dawes, Esq. Colonel Hodgson, H. C. Service, Master James Innes.

Passengers per Pilot, from Portsmouth for Colombo.

Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton, Captain Campbell, H. M. 83d Regiment, Lieutenant Yate, of the R. E. Lieutenant Smith, H. M. 73d Regiment, Mr. McDonald, apothecary to forces, Mr. Crawford, Assistant Staff Surgeon, Edward Tolfrey, Esq. Doctor Patterson, Lieutenant Warre, Mr. Kelfeth, Dr. Duccat, Mrs. Duccat, Mrs. Mullins, child, and servant, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Martin, and child, and a Detachment of H. M. 73d and 83d Regiments.